

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 98-11-30**

Date Prepared: November 24, 1998

For Work Week Commencing: November 30, 1998

Business Meeting: November 30, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, placed on the state electronic bulletin board, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. Energy West Resources Docket N98.11.265 – Energy West Resources electricity supplier license application – Discuss/Act on application (12/1/98)
2. Commercial Energy Docket N98.9.210 – Commercial Energy electricity supplier license application – Discuss/Act on expansion of license (12/1/98)
3. Great Falls Gas Docket D98.3.68 – GFG restructuring – Further post hearing/briefing discussion, direction, and action on the events, as needed if needed (12/1/98)
4. AT&T Docket D98.6.142 – AT&T and Sprint complaint – Discuss issues and options (12/1/98)
5. USWC Dockets N98.10.239 & N98.11.262 – USWC CustomChoice Tariffs – Decisions on permanent tariff filings previously approved on interim basis (adjusting rates for CustomChoice) (12/1/98)

6. USWC Docket D96.12.220 – BVD 9800559 Northwest Telephone vs PSC and USWC – Update and discussion of pending judicial review (12/1/98)
7. USWC Docket D98.10.243 – Investigation of USWC “Custom Choice” – To consider appropriate action (12/1/98)
8. Southern Montana Telephone Docket D97.11.225 – SMT Carrier Access Charge – Discuss final order (12/1/98)

Weekly/monthly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC. DOCKET NO. D98.11.272 (Eric)

On November 13, 1998, MDU filed an application for authority to issue up to \$75,000,000 of short-term indebtedness either in the form of ordinary unsecured promissory notes and/or in the form of commercial paper. The short-term borrowing authority requested is through December 31, 2000. This level of short-term borrowing is an increase of \$25,000,000 from the level previously authorized by the Commission in Docket No. D96.11.183. A default order has been drafted.

2. MONTANA POWER COMPANY DOCKET NO. D98.11.275 (Eric)

On November 18, 1998, MPC filed an application seeking authority to issue, assume or guarantee short-term, principally unsecured borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$150,000,000 outstanding at any one time during the period from January 1, 1999, through and including December 31, 2000. A default order has been drafted.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. MILLER OIL CO – DOCKET NO. N98.10.253 – (Joel)

On October 19, 1998 Miller Oil Co. filed for Commission approval of new tariffs reflecting rules covering charges for utility customer services. These services range from returned check charges to reconnection fees. The existing rates will remain the same.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

1. NSA – Pacificorp D98.10.218
2. NSA – USWC D97.5.87

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 98-12-7

N98.10.253 – Miller Oil Co – (Joel)

New Filings Received in Past Week

N98.11.276 – Mountain Energy Co – Application for final Electricity Suppliers License